

## MINUTES

### COUNCIL ADMINISTRATOR FORM OF GOVERNMENT FOR AIKEN COUNTY

COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 736 RICHLAND AVENUE, W., AIKEN, S. C.

REGULAR MEETING – JANUARY 10, 2006 – 7:00 P. M.

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(A) CALL TO ORDER

Determining that a quorum was present, Chairman Young called the meeting to order.

Council Members present:

Chairman Ronnie Young  
Kathy Rawls  
Scott Singer  
LaWana McKenzie  
Chuck Smith  
Eddie Butler  
Charles Barton  
Gary Bunker  
Willar H. Hightower, Jr.

Also present:

J. Clay Killian, County Administrator  
Robert M. Bell, County Attorney  
Tamara Sullivan, Council Clerk

(B) INVOCATION

Councilman Hightower led in the invocation.

(C) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilman Bunker led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

(D) APPROVAL OF AGENDA

a. Councilman Butler made a motion to amend and approve the agenda as follows:

1. Delete Old Business Item 1.
2. Amend Old Business Item 3 – The FY 2007 County operating budget is amended by adding \$30,000 in revenue for tax decals and \$30,000 in expenses to the Treasurer's Office. The Treasurer is authorized to charge \$1.00 for each vehicle decal issued.
3. Add Old Business Item 4 - Proposed Resolution To Amend Resolution 05-12-246 Appointing a member to the Savannah River Regional Diversification Initiative Board and to Appoint Members to ARTS Committees.
4. Amend Consent Item 5 and Public Hearing Item 6 – delete the wording “of a section”.
5. Delete Consent Item 7.
6. Amend Consent Item 8 – change the wording of “gasoline tax” to “cigarette tax”.

7. Delete Consent Item 10.
  8. Delete Consent Item 16.
  9. Add New Business Item 3 – Proposed Resolution To Accept \$340,000 from the South Carolina State Budget and Control Board for the Purchase of Sheriff's Vehicles with the Funds be Allocated in the FY 2007 County Operating Budget.
- b. Councilwoman McKenzie seconded the motion. The amended agenda was approved by unanimous vote.

(E) AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

1. Proposed Resolution Expressing Appreciation to the Honorable Eddie Butler for His Service as Vice-Chairman of County Council in 2005.  
(County Council)
  - a. Councilwoman McKenzie moved for the adoption. Councilman Hightower seconded.
  - b. Passed by unanimous vote with Councilman Butler abstaining.
2. Presentation for Hydrogen Education Outreach Center  
(Mr. Bill Inman, Aiken Electric Cooperative)
  - a. Mr. Inman presented Council with a check for \$219,000 for the Hydrogen Education Outreach Center.

(F) PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Proposed Ordinance to Approve a Proposed Amendment to the Aiken County Official Zoning and Development District Atlas to Rezone Tax Parcel 135-18-02-012 Located at 426 Wire Road (S-29), Aiken, South Carolina in Council District 6 from RD to OR.
  - a. Several comments were made by Councilmembers. Councilwoman McKenzie requested that the previous applicants for bonding companies in that area be contacted and informed of the OR option.
2. Proposed Ordinance to Amend the Aiken County Code to Allow More Time for the Payment of Solid Waste Invoices Due to the County.
  - a. No comments were made.
3. Proposed Ordinance to Issue Regional Ambulance Service a Renewal Franchise to Operate a Private Ambulance Service in Aiken County for a Three Year Period Ending December 31, 2008.
  - a. No comments were made.
4. Proposed Ordinance to Amend Ordinance #05-08-23 Which Approved a PUD for a Development in Graniteville, South Carolina to Allow for Reduced Front Setbacks in Certain Sections of the Development.
  - a. No comments were made.
5. Proposed Ordinance to Authorize the Council Chairman to Execute a Document Granting an Easement to South Carolina Electric and Gas.

- a. No comments were made.
- 6. Proposed Resolution to Change the Official Road Name of Garnet St (C-503) to Jackson Effie Lane in County Council District 1.  
**(AS AMENDED)**

- a. No comments were made.

(G) OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Proposed Ordinance to Provide for the Issuance and Sale of \$15,000,000 General Obligation Bonds of 2006 of Aiken County, South Carolina to Prescribe the Purposes for Which the Proceeds Shall be Expended, to Provide for the Payment Thereof, and Other Matters Relating Thereto.  
(County Council) (Third Reading)
  - a. **DELETED**
- 2. Proposed Ordinance to Amend the Aiken County Code of Ordinances to Permanently Change the Meeting Date for December.  
(Administrative Committee) (Third Reading)
  - a. Councilman Bunker moved for the adoption. Councilwoman McKenzie seconded.
  - b. Passed by unanimous vote.
- 3. Proposed Ordinance to Create One Position in the Aiken County Solicitor's Office and Two Positions for the Center for Hydrogen Research at the Savannah River Research Campus, and to Reclassify One Position at the Research Campus, and to Amend the FY 2007 Budget to Add Revenue, Expenses and Fees for the Treasurer's Office to Issue Vehicle Decals.  
(Judicial and Public Safety Committee, Administrative Committee) (Third Reading)  
**(AS AMENDED)**
  - a. Councilman Butler moved for the adoption. Councilman Bunker seconded.
  - b. Councilwoman Rawls made an amendment motion to delete the addition of two positions for the Center for Hydrogen Research. Councilman Hightower seconded.
  - c. The amendment motion failed by majority vote with Councilwoman Rawls and Councilman Hightower voting in favor. Councilman Singer, Councilwoman McKenzie, Councilman Smith, Councilman Butler, Councilman Barton, Councilman Bunker and Chairman Young voted in opposition.
  - d. The original motion was approved by majority vote with Councilwoman Rawls voting in opposition.
- 4. Proposed Resolution To Amend Resolution 05-12-246 Appointing a member to the Savannah River Regional Diversification Initiative Board and to Appoint Members to ARTS Committees.  
**(ADDITION)**
  - a. Councilman Butler made a motion to reconsider the appointment made in December 2005 to the Savannah River Regional Diversification Initiative. Councilman Singer seconded.

- b. The motion to reconsider passed by unanimous vote.
- c. Councilman Butler made a motion to appoint Councilman Smith to the Savannah River Regional Diversification Initiative Board, to appoint Councilman Singer to the ARTS Policy Subcommittee, and to appoint himself to the ARTS Policy Committee. Councilwoman McKenzie seconded the appointments.
- d. The appointments were approved by unanimous vote.

(H) CONSENT AGENDA/INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING

I. REGULAR CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Proposed Resolution to Appoint One Member to Designated Boards, Commissions and Committees with Terms of the Appointees to Run Concurrent with that of the Councilmember from Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, and 7.  
(Rawls, Singer, McKenzie, Smith, Barton, Bunker)
- 2. Proposed Resolution to Approve the Allocation of Funds for Various Non-Profit Agencies from the FY 2006 Council Contingency Fund.  
(County Council)
- 3. Proposed Resolution to Authorize Paving the 2.5 Miles from Oak Ridge Club Road (C-800) to Beck Road (S-2-1018) and Leaving the Remaining 2.25 Miles of Centerwood Road (C-795) as a Dirt Road.  
(Development Committee)
- 4. Proposed Resolution to Assign the Official Road Names to Existing Un-Named Private Roads in County Council Districts 2 and 8.  
(Singer, Hightower)
- 5. Proposed Resolution to Change the Official Road Name of Garnett St (C-503) to Jackson Effie Lane in County Council District 1.  
(Rawls) **(AS AMENDED)**
- 6. Proposed Resolution to Accept an Easement on Daley Drive (S-2-200) Needed for a Permanent Monitoring Well System.  
(Development Committee)
- 7. Proposed Resolution to Adopt a Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan for Aiken County.  
(Judicial and Public Safety Committee)

**DELETED**

- 8. Proposed Resolution to Encourage the South Carolina General Assembly to Share Any Increase in State Revenue Generated from an Increase in State Cigarette Tax to Share that Increase with PARD Funding, so that More Parks Can be Developed for the Citizens of South Carolina and Aiken County.  
(Development Committee) **(AS AMENDED)**
- 9. Proposed Resolution to Accept Funds from Aiken Electric Cooperative to Assist in the Construction of a Hydrogen Education Outreach Center at the Savannah River Research Campus.  
(County Council)

10. Proposed Ordinance to Prohibit Through Trucks on Powderhouse Road (S-2-440) Between Whiskey Road (S-19) and East Pine Log Road (S-302).  
(County Council) (Second Reading)

**DELETED**

11. Proposed Ordinance to Approve a Proposed Amendment to the Aiken County Official Zoning and Development District Atlas to Rezone Tax Parcel 135-18-02-012 Located at 426 Wire Road (S-29), Aiken, South Carolina in Council District 6 from RD to OR.  
(Barton) (Second Reading)
12. Proposed Ordinance to Amend the Aiken County Code to Allow More Time for the Payment of Solid Waste Invoices Due to the County.  
(Development Committee) (Second Reading)
13. Proposed Ordinance to Issue Regional Ambulance Service a Renewal Franchise to Operate a Private Ambulance Service in Aiken County for a Three Year Period Ending December 31, 2008.  
(Judicial and Public Safety Committee) (Second Reading)
14. Proposed Ordinance to Amend Ordinance #05-08-23 Which Approved a PUD for a Development in Graniteville, South Carolina to Allow for Reduced Front Setbacks in Certain Sections of the Development.  
(Development Committee) (Second Reading)
15. Proposed Ordinance to Authorize the Council Chairman to Execute a Document Granting an Easement to South Carolina Electric and Gas.  
(Development Committee) (Second Reading)

II. CONSENT AGENDA/INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING

16. Proposed Ordinance to Amend the Aiken County Code of Ordinances to Prohibit the Use of Any Tobacco Product at All County Parks.  
(Development Committee)

**DELETED**

- a. Councilman Smith made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilwoman McKenzie seconded.
- b. The Consent Agenda was approved by unanimous vote.

(I) NEW BUSINESS

1. Proposed Resolution Electing a Vice-Chairperson of the Aiken County Council for 2006.  
(County Council)
  - a. Councilwoman McKenzie made a motion to nominate Councilman Charles Barton as Vice-Chairperson. Councilwoman Rawls seconded.
  - b. The nomination was approved by unanimous vote with Councilman Barton abstaining.

2. Proposed Resolution Appointing Standing Committees of County Council for Calendar Year 2006.  
(County Council)
  - a. Councilwoman Rawls, Councilman Barton and Councilman Hightower requested to be appointed to the Development Committee.
  - b. Councilman Singer, Councilman Barton and Councilman Bunker requested to be appointed to the Administrative Committee.
  - c. Councilwoman McKenzie, Councilman Smith and Councilman Butler requested to be appointed to the Judicial and Public Safety Committee.
  - d. Councilman Hightower made a motion to approve the appointments to the Committees as requested. Councilman Smith seconded.
  - e. The appointments to the Committees were approved by unanimous vote.
3. Proposed Resolution To Accept \$340,000 from the South Carolina State Budget and Control Board for the Purchase of Sheriff's Vehicles with the Funds to be Allocated in the FY 2007 County Operating Budget.  
**(ADDITION)**
  - a. Councilman Butler moved for the adoption. Councilman Smith seconded.
  - b. At Chairman Young's request Mr. Bell provided the audience with his legal opinion that, after reviewing a letter from the South Carolina State Budget and Control Board, the funds allocated were for use in the Sheriff's Office. Prior authorization from the State Budget and Control Board would be necessary if the funds were used for any other purpose.
  - c. The Resolution passed by unanimous vote.

(J) PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

1. Presentation to Aiken County Parks, Recreation & Tourism Department for "State Innovative Recreation Program of the Year".  
(Mr. Jim Headley, Executive Director, South Carolina Recreation and Parks Association)
  - a. Mr. Headly recognized Mr. Brian Sanders for his leadership as president of Association.
  - b. Ms. Emory Langston was recognized for her dedication and accepted the award for State Innovative Recreation Program of the Year.
2. Presentation by Leadership Aiken County 2005-2006 Class.  
(Member LAC Class)
  - a. Mr. Robert Bigger, representing the Leadership Aiken County 2005-2006 Class, distributed an information packet about the 2-1-1- Help Line Program and discussed the many advantages of having such a program in place. Mr. Bigger asked Council to consider ongoing financial support of this program during budget time.

(K) ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND THE PUBLIC RECORD

1. Fiscal Year 2006 Aiken County Contingency Report as of December 21, 2005.

(L) INFORMAL MEETING OF WHOLE

- a. Several citizens voiced concern about the funds allocated by the State Budget and Control Board and questioned the letter Mr. Bell reviewed from that entity.
- b. The need for additional County assistance with the upkeep of roads, litter pick up, mowing, nuisance enforcement, and other code enforcement issues were brought to Council's attention by several citizens in the Graniteville and Midland Valley areas.
- c. Ms. Vicki Simons praised Council for the level of openness during the meetings. She also made the suggestion that the County consider going out on bid on a commission basis to tackle the out-of-state tag problem.
- d. Councilman Singer, Councilman Smith, Councilman Butler and Councilman Bunker are going to work together as a group with the City of Aiken to review the recommendations of both Planning Commissions to help find a compromise for the differences in the Whiskey Road Overlay District Development Standards.
- e. Councilman Smith made a motion to recess for Executive Session. Councilman Butler seconded.
- f. The motion to recess passed by unanimous vote.

RECESSED – 9:41 P. M.

(M) EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Legal Matters:
  - a. Status Report on Pending Litigation, Legal Claims and Legal Advice.  
(County Attorney) (Verbal)
2. Contractual Matters:
3. Personnel Matters:

RECONVENED – 10:46 P. M.

- a. Councilman Smith made a Voice Motion on behalf of the Kimberly Clark project now in motion, that the County conduct an appraisal of the right-of-way property. Once the County conducts an appraisal of the right-of-way property, an offer is to be made to the current owner of that property prior to conduction of eminent domain. Councilman Singer seconded the Voice Motion.
- b. The Voice Motion passed by unanimous vote with Councilman Bunker abstaining and Councilwoman McKenzie absent.
- c. Councilman Singer made a Voice Motion to adjust the Administrator's salary by 10% plus cost of living increases for the last two years. Councilman Bunker seconded.
- d. The Voice Motion passed by unanimous vote with Councilwoman McKenzie absent.
- e. Councilman Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Hightower seconded.

f. The motion to adjourn passed by unanimous vote with Councilwoman McKenzie absent.

(N) ADJOURNMENT – 10:49 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

SIGNED:

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Tamara Sullivan, Council Clerk

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Ronnie Young, Chairman